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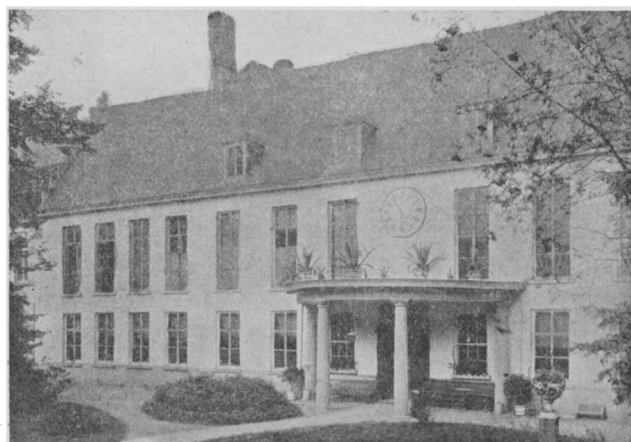
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The object lesson pointed by the nearly 4,000 miles of unfortified frontier between us and Canada should be emphasized on every possible occasion and the contrast drawn between it and the guarded boundaries of Europe, whose forts and sentinels have so failed to keep the peace. Our peace has been preserved because we prepared for it by removing from the great Canadian border all that might seem to have any hostile intent. There were no ships of war on the Great Lakes ready to fire the fatal first shot, no forts or armed patrols along the line.

Dr. James A. MacDonald of Toronto, speaking before the Congregational Club of Boston on Forefathers' Day, uttered these memorable words:

"A civilized international boundary and a century of peace! That is America's greatest achievement.



Courtesy of The Congregationalist

CARTHUSIAN MONASTERY FROM THE COURTYARD.

HERE THE TREATY OF GHENT WAS SIGNED
DECEMBER 24, 1814.

That thing, unique, original, North America alone has done. And because of that achievement these two nations have earned the right, when the wicked war is over, to stand up in the councils of the nations and teach the homelands of American colonists the more excellent way. What the sons in America have done on the Great Lakes, on the St. Lawrence, on the Niagara, and across the sweeping plains the fathers in Britain, in France, and in Germany might do, ought to do, on the North Sea and in the Channel. It can be done on all the continents. The jungle can be made a neighborhood. The remainders of barbarism can be swept away on every boundary line. If America takes her stand and leads the way all the continents will do it."

Annual Meeting Notice.

The eighty-seventh annual meeting of the American Peace Society will be held in Washington, D. C., on Friday, the 7th of May. It is hoped that a large number of the members of the society will plan to attend. Detailed notice of the arrangements will be given in the next issue of THE ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

Wasted Heroism and How to Make It Count.

The saddest feature of the present lamentable European war is the heroism which is being misdirected and wasted. The uncountable money waste is bad enough, for money represents past labor and present and future possibilities. The shocking loss of life is worse still. But, worst of all, is the waste of heroism, for heroism implies idealism and idealists. This wanton annihilation of idealists—this blotting out of men willing to sacrifice limb and life at their country's call—is the supremely tragic element in the deplorable situation, for this is the class that any nation can least afford to lose. Gen. Francis A. Walker used to say that the wave of sordid commercialism and unscrupulous greed, which has now engulfed our country for half a century, dates from the Civil War, when so many high-minded young men perished, leaving the administration of business and politics to conscienceless materialists.

What is Europe's sacrifice all for? Is some worthy end to be attained—some end that is worth the awful cost? None whatever. Between the warring nations there exists absolutely no question which can be soberly formulated and submitted to arbitration, even assuming that the belligerents were in a temper to arbitrate. What is at the bottom of the struggle, then? Half a dozen monarchs, greedy for more power, hoodwinked or prodded on by dividend-seeking corporations which sell war munitions, have turned Europe into a slaughter pen, and are busily engaged in transforming the very flower of European manhood into decaying corpses.

The pity is that the unfortunate victims have been caught with such "mouldy corn." At the old, hypocritical cry of "patriotism," "loyalty to king," "defense of fatherland," "honor of the flag," able-bodied citizens have yielded themselves to mob hypnotism, and, even at this late day in world evolution, again have consented to be merely "the king's animal" and "food for powder"; as if any land or king or flag were worth dying for that does not put above everything else the lives and happiness of its citizens, instead of gulping them down in the blood-dripping jaws of war!

Not for one moment would we speak lightly of the dead, the dying, and the doomed. When one lays down his life for a cause, flippant criticism is out of place. But it is neither irreverent nor irrelevant to ask whether said cause is worth dying for. Probably every thoughtful observer of events feels that the present war is the greatest tragedy in all history, not only because of its frightful cost in money and men and morals, not only because of its absolutely silly and brazenly wicked needlessness, but because its excuse is so utterly paltry, and because its motives are so despicable.

Is there no way in which this misdirected and wasted